

**Amendment to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A filter assembly for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:
  - a dust container having a desired-sized storing space and an upper opening;
  - an inclined guide provided at an upper and outer circumferential surface of the dust container;
  - a cover having a through-hole for sucking external air and disposed to cover the upper opening of the dust container;
  - a fixing lever disposed at an outside of a rim of the cover so as to be slid and having a protrusion protruded toward an inner side of the cover, the protrusion being slid while contacted with the inclined guide, whereby the cover being closely contacted with the dust container; and
  - a filter removably disposed at a filter mounting portion formed by an opening in a portion of a wall of the dust container.
2. (original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a separation preventing jaw provided at a side of the inclined guide, for preventing the protrusion of the fixing lever from being slid.
3. (original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a shielding rib disposed at an inner surface of the cover, for reducing a flow rate of the sucked air discharged through the filter.
4. (original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a barrier formed on a bottom surface of the dust container, for restricting a flow of the foreign substance introduced into the dust container toward the filter.

5. (currently amended) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a filter fixing member provided with a receiving portion for receiving the filter and disposed to be closely contacted with the opening in the portion of the wall of the dust container; and

a grill member fitted to the receiving portion, for preventing the filter inserted into the receiving portion from being separated.

6. (original) The assembly of claim 5, further comprising a hook provided at a side of the filter fixing member so as to be coupled to a groove portion formed at a side of the filter mounting portion.

7. (original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a sealing member disposed between the cover and the dust container.

8. (original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising guide means provided at the rim of the cover, for guiding a movement of the fixing lever.

9. (original) The assembly of claim 8, wherein the guide means comprises a lever guide disposed at an inner surface of the rim of the cover and a guide rail provided at the lever guide so as to be inserted into a guide groove formed at the fixing lever.